TOK Essay Outline-

Propose a 5th way of Knowing( Memory) and explore knowledge issues in two areas of knowledge

**Introduction**- my understanding of the essay title and response to it

* To what extent can we trust our senses? To what extent can we build an objective view of the world? What are the different whays to use logic to arrive to a conclusion? How we understand the world and how can we express our ideas .
* WOK clearly overlap with each other.

How do I interpret the question?

* Through the four ways of knowing, able to obtain “knowledge in different forms”
* My understanding of the question is that being able to obtain knowledge should not and is not limited to the 4 WOK provided by the TOK diagram. WOK also considered to be how we interect with ideas/concepts and understand them.

How you remember something might be different from someone else depending on you perspective of the situation.

Ie our emotional state may dramatize what really happened, or miss out bits.

* In many ways, memory is key in being able to obtain the knowledge we have gained.
* What is memory- being able to experience something, store it, and then retrieve that experice as a thought.
* Are their different ways of experiencing something?- in a way- the listed WOKs are the ways of experiencing a potential memory. ( sense,language, emotion)
* Bring up next question- if we cant remember something- does that mean is did not happen, that is never existed? To what extent can we trust our memory to verify reality ?
* I will be trying to show even though what we remember is subjective- if what we remember is universally “true”?
* If many people remember the same thing- does that make it true?

Knowledge issues

1.To what extent can memory verify reality/what has occurred?

2.How do we know there are other Ways of Knowing?

3.To what extent can memory be objectively measured for accuracy/truthfulness?

**Explanation of Knowledge Issues arise from the title**

KI( knowledge issue)2 will be usually in the introduction to show that we are able to add in an other WOK.

KI 1. Deals with the AOK History and the past.

KI 3. Deals with the AOK Human Sciences – Psychology

What is the real life situation that promtped these questions?

Scene from The Bald Soprano- M and Mme Martin are eating dinner. Because they did not recognize each other, through process of elimination that they live in the same house, went on the same holiday and when on the same train they are Husband and wife. So that raises the question- if they had not remembered each other (failure of their memory) would that mean they are not husband and wife?

**1. To what extent can memory verify reality/what has occurred?( stimukated from History, but applies elsewhere as well)**

When we can’t remember, relie heavily on evidence.

Evidence- using clues to answer a question that can not be 100% verified.

Ie court case of OJ- evidence strongly showed he killed

* Explanation: none of it can be ‘remembered”, we can only use evidence to verify it is true. Example in real life situation- they used evidence to see that it was true even though could not remember. Therefore- the more evidence you have makes it more true- right?
* Therefore, We don’t really need our memory, if there is evidence to verify what happened in the past
* Difference between past and history
* (Past we experience it- and not necessarily recorded)
* If a majority of the people remember something happened- then that means it happened ( this is a generalization- give example for and counter)
* ( No may not be able to trust it)Stability of the persons mental health. But then that goes into Ethics- of saying is the “reality” of someone with a “false memory” *wrong* compared to the mental stability of sane person?(Ethics)

3. **How can the accuracy/truthfulness of our memory help us obtain knowledge**

Forget – unable to retrieve information that we have stored. We can say forgetting something is failure to retrieve information because when you experience something( potential memory), we are familiar with it- grow accustom.

History- primary source, secondary source, tertiary source( the further away from the person who recounted it- the “ less true” it is)

However there is bias

As an indivual- use your own “primary source” will be more true that someone else’s memory because each person’s experience may be different. So on individual basis, our knowledge is subject. Can’t revifiy

## Empirical knowledge

This is knowledge that we have gained personally, by experiencing it for ourselves – usually through our senses. It is sometimes termed a posteriori knowledge, meaning after experience.

**Knowledge by acquaintance**

Knowledge by acquaintance, a term used by Bertrand Russell, is anything that we know from personal experience.

**Knowledge by description**

Another Russell term, this is knowledge that we know by being told by other people, or finding out from another source

**Rational knowledge**

Rational knowledge, unlike empirical knowledge, is knowledge we believe is true because it seems reasonable, and fits in with other things we know are true. It is often more theoretical than empirical knowledge, and often cannot be experienced with the senses, for example, mathematical knowledge